

## General Lemuel Cornick Shepherd, Jr.

(1896–1990)

Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps

### VITA

**B**orn in Norfolk, Virginia; graduated from Virginia Military Institute (1917); commissioned in the Marines and ordered to France (1917); aide to commandant (1920–22); served aboard *USS Nevada* and *USS Idaho* (1922–25); Marine barracks, Norfolk (1925–27); 4<sup>th</sup> Marines, China (1927–29); field officer's course, Quantico (1930); Haiti (1930–34); Marine Corps institute staff (1934–36); Naval War College (1937); 5<sup>th</sup> Marines (1937); Marine Corps schools staff (1939–42); 9<sup>th</sup> Marines (1942); 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, Guadalcanal (1943); Cape Gloucester (1943); 1<sup>st</sup> Provisional Marine Brigade, Guam (1944); 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Division, Okinawa (1945); assistant commandant and chief of staff (1946–48); commandant of schools (1948–50); Fleet Marine Force, Pacific; Inchon landing (1950); 20<sup>th</sup> commandant (1952–55); chairman, Inter-American Defense Board (1956); returned to active duty (1956–57); died at La Jolla, California.



U.S. Marine Corps Museum

Portrait by Bjorn Egeli.

On June 28, 1952, the President signed into law a bill amending the National Security Act so as to grant co-equal status on the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Commandant of the Marine Corps on matters which he decided were of direct concern to the Marine Corps. The Commandant's selection of matters of Marine Corps concern was binding unless overridden by the Secretary of Defense on the recommendation of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. By "co-equal status," the Congress meant that the Commandant would enjoy all the rights of JCS membership on a matter of direct concern to the Marine Corps under consideration by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

—Chronology of JCS Organization, 1945–1984